

JANUARY 1961



Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.

“CUMORAH’S”

SOUTHERN MESSENGER

JANUARY, 1961

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The Editor's Page

"A new year in a new era! How time flies, and how wonderful, how magnificent are the events which are borne upon its wings! Its the opening of a dispensation that includes all the other dispensations since the world began. The events of the 1,000 years past pale into insignificance compared with the work of the present time."

— President Wilford Woodruff



BEHIND us now is the greatest year of Church advancement in the history of this mission since the Elders of Israel first came to these shores in 1853. From every branch of the mission has come unheard of numbers of converts. In almost every city that the Elders are labouring in new Chapels and buildings are being planned. In addition many of the present Chapels are now being enlarged and renovated to accommodate the new members.

The end is far from in sight as the Elders of the Restored Gospel go from door to door teaching and baptising in the name of the Lord. The goal set at the beginning of the year was 200 convert baptisms. Then with the arrival of President Alldredge and his family, a new mission teaching plan was affected. The goal for the last 6 months of 1960 was reset to 400 convert baptisms. At the time of writing there are now recorded far more than the 400 planned. And late reports are still arriving at the office daily.

To aid the proselyting work the Book of Mormon translation is nearing the half way mark and the committee is striving to complete it as soon as possible. All phases of teaching and preaching the Gospel are being stepped up in the Mission in order to continue the rapid growth of the Church and handle the new Saints who are coming into the fold.

The words of President Wilford Woodruff are echoing across the years to our day! And the fulfillment of his statement is to be seen in the surge of Mission-wide growth this past year. Just on the horizon of our future is another year of even greater progression! The mission plan in 1961 includes 800 convert baptisms. There will be several new Chapels built and a Temple Excursion to London. Plan your time and talents that you can help the Lord strengthen His Kingdom here in this sunblessed land. Do your part in the 1961 NEW ERA!

THE CHURCH NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

Church Authorities Visit Brazilian mission

With the arrival of President Joseph Fielding Smith and Elder Theodore Tuttle the Brazilian mission has buzzed with activity. Hundreds of Saints from all over the mission flocked to the conferences and meetings that the Brethren held. In many cases people were so anxious to attend that they would travel upwards of 500 miles by rail and auto to reach the services. One small branch of 30 members had 120 investigators and friends out to the services to hear the General Authorities. Everywhere the party went they were greeted by enthusiastic crowds of people. And the interviews held by radio, press and other media were very favourable towards the Church. The visitors stopped at several of the large branches where conferences were held, and at each meeting the buildings were packed to capacity. In the Sao Paulo Chapel which is still unfinished, 671 persons attended the District Conference morning session and 731 the afternoon session. The Brazilian mission has benefited greatly by the tour and the work of the Lord is going forward. Up to October 1960 there were 303 baptism in the mission. In October alone over 126 were recorded and since this visit the increase has continued.

A New Mission Home

The Austrian mission is now the proud owners of a mansion in Vienna. The home recently purchased has three floors, and adjacent to the house is a large swimming pool and garages. The first floor is devoted to offices for the mission, the second is the private chambers of the Mission President and his family, while the third floor is furnished for the lady missionaries. The Elders who labour at the home stay in the basement.

12 New Sites for Chapels in Europe

Elder Bringhurst recently returned from a tour of Europe and reported the purchases of 12 new lots, in the various missions of Europe. Germany heads the list with stands acquired in the following cities: Two in Berlin, Lubeck, Dusseldorf, Esson, Williamsburg, Augsburg, Kaiserslautern and Heilbronn. Switzerland is next and lots have been bought in Ebnat, Lausanne and Geneva. All construction work will begin after the first of the year and it is hoped that the structures will be in use before the end of 1961. These Chapels will be great assets to the respective branches and will help in the proselyting of the Gospel by being silent missionaries. Each of the new building will be of modern design and of similar decor inside.

The Nobility of Labour

I have endeavoured to impress upon the minds of youth the necessity of their working to the extent of their ability; and also while so labouring never to become disheartened.

The Marchioness de Lambert said: **"There is nothing so improper for a young man as that modesty which makes him fancy he is not capable of great things. That modesty is a faintness of soul which hinders it from exerting itself. There is a superior genius and merit in some persons that tells them nothing is impossible to them."**

I have found nothing in the battle of life that has been of more value to me than to perform the duty of today to the best of my ability; and I know that where young men do this, they will be better prepared for the labours of tomorrow.



President Heber J. Grant

It is admitted that statements of personal experiences, spoken or written, carry more force and make a more lasting impression upon the minds of hearers and readers than can be made in any other. This must be my excuse for relating so many incidents in my own career.

When a youth attending school, a man was pointed out to me who kept books in Wells, Fargo and Co's. Bank, in Salt Lake City, and it was said that he received a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars a month. Well do I remember figuring that he was earning six dollars a day, Sundays omitted, which seemed to me an enormous amount. Although I had not yet read the inspiring words of Lord Bulwer-Lytton, quoted above, yet I dreamed of being a bookkeeper, and working for Wells Fargo, & Company., and immediately joined the bookkeeping class in the Deseret University, in the hope someday of earning what I thought at that time to be an immense salary.

I quote with pleasure once more from Lord Bulwer-Lytton: **"What man wants is not talent, it is purpose; not power to achieve, but the will to labour."**

Samuel Smiles has said: **"Purposes, like eggs, unless they are hatched into action, will run into decay."**

Bulwer-Lytton took it for granted undoubtedly that where youth dreamed nobly and manfully, that it would inspire him to have a purpose in life. Having intended to become a bookkeeper, I immediately set to work. Well do I remember the amusement I furnished my fellow students. One remarked, when looking at my books, "What is it; her tracks?" Another said, "Has lightning struck an ink bottle?" These remarks and others, made not to hurt my feeling but in goodnatured fun, nevertheless cut deep and aroused within me a spirit of determination. I resolved to live to set copies for all who attended the university, and to be the teacher of penmanship and bookkeeping in that institution. Having a purpose and also **"the will to labour"**, and agreeing with Bulwer-Lytton that, **"In the bright lexicon of youth there's no such word as fail."** I commenced to employ my spare time in practising penmanship, continuing year after year until I was referred to as **"the greatest scribbler on earth."**

The result was that some years later I secured a position as bookkeeper and policy clerk in an insurance office. Although at fifteen, I wrote a very nice hand, it was all that was needed to satisfactorily fill the position which I then held; yet I was not fully satisfied but continued to dream and "scribble" when not otherwise occupied. I worked in the front part of a bank, and when not busy, volunteered to assist with the bank work and do anything and everything I could to employ my time, never thinking whether I was to be paid or not, but having only a desire to work and learn. Mr. Morf, the bookkeeper in the bank, wrote well, and took pains to assist me in my efforts to become proficient as a penman. I learned to write so well after that, that I often earned more before and after office hours by writing cards, invitations, etc., and making maps, than the amount of my regular salary. Some years later a diploma at the Territorial Fair was awarded me for the finest penmanship in Utah. When I engaged in business for myself there was a vacancy at the university for a teacher of penmanship and bookkeeping, and to make good the promise to myself, made when a youth of twelve or thirteen, that I would some day teach these branches. I applied for the situation. My application was accepted, and my obligation to myself discharged. Young men who are labouring in the improvement cause should be true to themselves, and when they resolve to accomplish something they should never become discouraged, but should labour cheerfully and with determination until the promise to themselves has become a reality. If we fall into the habit of making resolutions in relation to ourselves, and of constantly breaking them, such a course will tend to make us careless in the fulfillment of promises to others.

To thine own self be true,
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou can'st not then be false to any man.

Shakespeare, Hamlet
Act 1 Scene 3.

Never Despair

There is not a trait in human character so potential for weal or woe as firmness. To the businessman it is all important. Before its irresistible energy the formidable obstacles become as cobweb barriers in its path. Difficulties, the terror of which causes the pampered sons of luxury to shrink back with dismay, provoke from the man of lofty determination only a smile.

It is related of Tamerlane, the celebrated warrior, the terror of whose arms spread through all the eastern nations, and whom victory attended at almost every step, that he once learned from an insect a lesson of perseverance which had a striking effect upon his future character and success.

When closely pursued by enemies he took refuge in some old ruins where, left to his solitary musings, he espied an ant tugging and striving to carry a single grain of corn. His unavailing efforts were repeated sixty-nine times, and each time as he reached a certain point of projection, he fell back with his burden, unable to surmount it; but the seventieth time he bore away his spoil in triumph and left the wondering hero reanimated and exulting in the hope of future victory.

Be then bold in spirit. Indulge no doubts—they are traitors. In the practical pursuit of our high aim, let us never lose sight of it in the slightest instance: for it is more by a disregard of small things than by open and flagrant offences, that men come short of excellence. There is always a right and a wrong, and if you ever doubt, be sure you take not the wrong. Observe this rule, and every experience will be to you a means of advancement.

"Never Despair" has been one of the guiding stars of my life, as I have often felt that I could not afford to be outdone by an insect.

At nineteen, I was keeping books and acting as a policy clerk for Wells, Fargo & company. My time was not fully employed. I was not working for the company but for the agent personally. I did the same as I had done at the bank—volunteered to file a lot of bank letters, etc., and to keep a set of books of the Sandy Smelting Company which my employer was doing personally.

I will remark that my employer was very pleased and gave me the job collecting for Wells, Fargo & Co. and paid me twenty dollars a month for this work in addition to my regular compensation. Thus I was in the employ of Wells, Fargo & company and one of my day dreams had become a reality.

When New Year's eve arrived I was at the office quite late writing calling cards. My employer came in and pleasantly remarked that business was good, that it never rains but it pours, or something to this effect. He referred to my having kept the Sandy Smelting Company's books without compensation and said a number of complimentary things which made me very happy. He then handed me a check for 100 (hundred) dollars (about £33) which doubly compensated me for all my extra labour. The satisfaction enjoyed by me in feeling that I had won the goodwill of my employer was worth more to me than twice one hundred dollars. Every young man who will endeavour to employ all his time, never stopping to count the amount of compensation he is to receive for services, but rather be inspired with a desire to labour and learn, I promise, will achieve success in the battle of life.

**Dream, oh youth! dream nobly
and manfully, and thy dreams shall
be thy prophets.**

**What man wants is not talent, it
is purpose; not power to achieve, but
the will to labour.**

**Arise therefore, and be doing, and
the Lord will be with you!**

President Heber J. Grant,

President of the Church 1918-1945

A great and marvellous work is about to come forth unto the children of men.

Behold, I am God; give heed to my word, which is quick and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword, to the dividing asunder of both joints and marrow, therefore give heed unto my word.

Behold, the field is white already to harvest; therefore, whoso desireth to reap let him thrust in his sickle with his might, and reap while the day lasts, that he may treasure up for his soul everlasting salvation in the kingdom of God.

Doctrine and Covenants 14:1-3

COME, COME YE SAINTS



TO the handful of Saints huddled on the banks of the Mississippi River in the year 1846, the world looked desolate. The cruel wind tore into the thin clothing they wore as they camped in the mud and ice, with little more than the bark of trees to eat. Behind them lay the flaming city of Nauvoo which they had claimed from the swamps; before them lay the unknown wilderness and winter.

Walking among the wretched groups each day, President Young saw the look of anguish and suffering the Saints had endured written on their tired faces.

Yet, before they would find rest he knew they would suffer still more, on the long trek to the mountains. As the flickering light of the campfires dimmed to glowing coals, the Prophet pondered the plight of the Saints over and over in his mind. Suddenly the inspiration of God settled on him and he felt in his heart that a new hymn would raise the spirits of the company.

President Young summoned Brother William Clayton to his wagon and spoke to him about writing a new hymn for the journey. Looking Brother Clayton in the eye the Prophet told him: **"I want you to write a hymn that the people can sing at their campfires in the evening; something that will give them succour and support, and help them fight the many troubles of the journey."**

With the spirit of God burning in his bosom, Brother Clayton gathered some writing materials and left the camp. Coming to some trees, he knelt down and offered a solemn prayer. Rising to his feet once more he began to write. The words fell from his quill into the moving verses of the hymn. In later years when he recalled the incident Brother Clayton said: "I wrote under the favour and inspiration of the Lord."

Within two hours he returned to camp with the completed words for the hymn, and, after adapting an old melody for the music, the new hymn was finished. There on the muddy plains of Iowa, not far from a place known as Locust Creek was born the greatest of all Latter-day Saint hymns: **"COME, COME, YE SAINTS."**

The beauty of the restored gospel is summed up in these immortal lines of prose. Here the author has captured the spirit of an oppressed people, and epitomizes the weary hardships they endured for the faith they carried in their bosoms.

Soon the hymn became the mainstay of the Saints and the weary miles slipped under the wagon wheels to the music of the hymn. At night the oxen were unyoked and the evening meal would be eaten while the music of a fiddle or hand organ would cheer the party. Before long the strains of: "Come, Come, Ye Saints" would break forth and the night air would be split with songs of praise unto God! Slowly when the voices faded into the quiet darkness, each person would retire to bed with the comforting words of the hymn still fresh in their ears. The exhaustion of the day would fall like scales and the slumber of peace descend on the camp. But on the plains the hardship was always present and the voice that sang today might be silent the next.

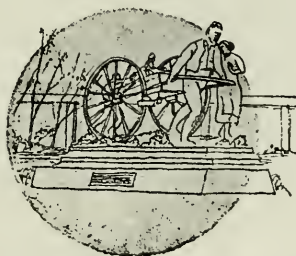
One night as a company prepared to make camp one of the wagons was found missing, and a volunteer party was organized and they set off up the trail in search of it. But as they left the camp the wagon could be seen in the distance so they turned back. When he arrived the driver told the Saints he had been quite sick and felt that he should lie down. After dinner the old brother who had come in late walked over to the fire and sat down on a rock. In a sweet, clear voice he began to sing "Come, Come, Ye Saints." As the hymn continued every eye was moist with welled-up tears, and the old man's face was lighted by the flames of the campfire as it gave his face a warm, happy look. The voice that had started so clear began to fade until it reached the last verse, then with a confident tone, carried on to the end, . . . **"and should we die before our journeys through, Happy day ! ! All is well ! "We then are free from toil and sorrow too ! ! With the just we shall dwell . . ."**

When camp was broken the next morning, no life could be seen round the wagon that had come in late. When one of the men investigated they found that the old man had passed away in the night. The whole company of Saints gathered around the shallow grave that was dug, and the stone the old man sat on the night before, was rolled on the grave to mark it.

Many did die before their journey was through but the spirit of the Gospel and the promise of a resurrection for the just made death sweet; Yes truly all is well, for the righteous have no cause to fear.

When next we sing this thrilling hymn lets praise our heritage, with a song of the heart.

HAPPY DAY! ALL IS WELL!



The author of this article, Brother Dudley Hartford joined the Church last August and has been a staunch supporter of the Church ever since. At the present time Dudley who is 19 years old, is the only member of his family in the Church.

MY REASON FOR JOINING THE MORMON CHURCH

ONLY after becoming a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints did I realise how privileged I was. This gave me good reason to think back to how and why I found myself regularly attending services and meetings at "Cumorah" here in Cape Town. My past experience of church attendance goes back to the time I was too young to realise the benefits resulting from applying the principles of the gospel.

The realisation of this new way of life dawned on me after attending the first service at the Mowbray Branch. A way of life which in the past was only a desire, lacking the spiritual inspiration necessary for a positive application.

That night I had the opportunity of listening to a speaker who put forth a plan of salvation irresistible to any perceptive person. A method through which by individual effort one may develop the self-control so essential to those wishing to live righteous lives. Here was an organization which offered the opportunity of being able to participate in a plan which would provide the strength to overcome the many imperfections of one's soul.

All this was unveiled to me purely through the determined efforts of the missionaries, for whose understanding and assistance I shall be ever grateful. Their direct interest in me as an investigator alone, was sufficient evidence that they belonged to the true church of God. Through this channel I received the help and guidance I was so badly in need of in order to become a follower of Christ. The warm hand of friendship extended to me by the members of the Church is something which I will never be able to repay in full.

Now that I am a member of the Church I am already reaping the benefits in a way that I have at long last learned to appreciate my parents and their part in my life.

I pray that I will forever remain true and faithful to our Father in Heaven now that I have found this beautiful way of life.

— Dudley Hartford

Your .

- Priesthood Page

MAGNIFY THE PRIESTHOOD

ONCE when the Apostles were travelling about Jerusalem preaching the Gospel they came to the entrance of the temple. Here lay a man who hadn't walked since his birth asking alms of passersby. Seeing Peter and John he asked them for money as well, but instead of giving him a piece of money Peter commanded the man to look at them. Then when the man's attention was focussed on the two Apostles Peter spoke saying: **"Silver and Gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk!"** The man leaped up and was healed from that hour, and went about praising God and giving thanks for his restoration to health.

This incident gives us a lovely example of the way the Apostles of the Lord magnified their callings in the ministry. Yet people today would have us believe that such things can't happen today. But the Priesthood of God when it is used in righteousness, has no restrictions, be it time, place, or situation. Think of the young Elders who go forth in the world, many of them hardly out of High School, yet they go with the same mission, calling and authority that Jesus Gave his Apostles.

Two young Elders in the Southwest Indian Mission had this experience: The Elder and his companion went to the Navajo Indian Reservation. They went into a hogan (similar to a native Kraal) and found a woman lying on her back on a sheepskin. She had never stood up and for six long years had been bedridden. When the Elders were about to leave the woman asked: **"Isn't there something you people can do for people who are sick and afflicted?"** The Elder told her there was. **"Will you please do it for me then?"** The two missionaries got down on their knees and administered to her. They left the hogan and had only gone a short distance when they heard the woman behind them. **"Come back and see what you have done for me!"** She ran toward them and has been walking to this day.

Well, if you asked that young Elder who healed the woman he would have told you that it was the Priesthood of God he held which gave him the power to heal. God certainly magnifies even the humblest servant in His Kingdom, and he will magnify you as well if you will live worthy of His blessings.

HONOUR THE PRIESTHOOD

FTT.

The Sunday School Page



TO BE A TEACHER

AN instructor of the Gospel! What a noble calling, when with love unfeigned the children of the Church are taught the precepts of the Master. There is no more rewarding occupation. Yet, this opportunity to serve is so often flaunted by the very ones who are called to teach the Sunday School classes of the Church. How little these teachers value the sweet souls that are entrusted to their care!

The number of times an instructor enters his class room still pouring over the lesson for the day, would fill volumes. And still it is the same teachers who, Sunday after Sunday, never prepare or rehearse the material to be covered in the lessons.

Glancing back into the childhood of each one of us, we could probably summon up a mental picture of the teachers we remember in our Sunday School classes. In most cases only a few stand out as superb teachers. Why? Because these are the ones who devoted themselves to the job of teaching wholeheartedly. And they instilled in our hearts the same love of the Gospel they themselves had. They had learned an important lesson—they were feeding the Master's sheep.

President McKay often recounts the time when as a youth his teacher would arrive at the small Huntsville Chapel on horseback. The children would gather round her horse in wonderment because in the early Spring their teacher would have to ford the rivers between her home and the Chapel. Many times the children could see from the dripping horse that she had actually swum the swollen rivers so she could teach her class. You could bet that this faithful teacher had a well prepared lesson to present to her class.

What is the worth of a teacher? Perhaps this cannot be summed up in material terms, but the gratitude of thankful students is boundless and the reward of the faithful labourer is sure.

The story is told of a young teacher who went to a small village to teach. On the first day of the term he was met with the same problems his predecessors had. A very unruly and rebellious lad kept the class in constant uproar. Finally, after drawing a rude picture of the teacher on his slate, he was asked to stay after school. His friends, fully expecting to hear his yells of pain as he was caned, gathered outside to wait for him. As the time slowly dragged by only silence met their vigil, until the boy suddenly emerged with several books under his arm. Without a word he passed his former friends and went home to study. "I was a changed man from that day forward." Recalled James Whitcomb Riley, the famous American poet. In place of the usual force, this teacher had taken a personal interest in the young boy and helped arouse his interest in art and poetry. Instead of the often used cane, he received love and understanding. James Whitcomb Riley's life was changed because he met a real teacher.

What greater reward could be found in all the world for that teacher in the little village school. He had helped to light the lamp of genius, and guide the footsteps of a youth.

As you are called to teach in Sunday School let the mantle of love for your work overshadow all your labours. And you will truly, "FEED THE MASTERS SHEEP".

The Relief Society Page



BELOW is the comparative reports for the month of November 1960. This report gives us, of the Relief Society Sisters of the Mission, an idea on how we are progressing insofar as attendance etc. is concerned. But the real progression for which the Relief Society was formed is **INDIVIDUAL ADVANCEMENT**. For that we have no charts as only you can tell where you stand. So, as you scan the report, give yourself a mental test to determine how much you've advanced personally during the month. If you're short of the goals you hope to attain, reset them and try to better yourself in the coming month.

COMPARATIVE REPORT NOVEMBER 1960

Branch	Number Enrolled	Average Attendance	Percentage of Attendance	Number of Magazines	Percentage of Subscriptions to R.S. Magazines
BELLVILLE*	10				
BLOEMFONTEIN	7	7	100%	7	100%
BULAWAYO*	23				
DURBAN	23	16	70%		
EAST LONDON	7	6	86%	6	86%
EAST RAND	13	12	100%	12	100%
GWELO	6	5	83%	3	50%
KRUGERSDORP	26	16	62%	22	85%
LUANSHYA	5	4	80%	8	160%
MOWBRAY	44	25	57%	38	86%
PIETERMARITZBURG	6	5	83%	2	33½%
PORT ELIZABETH*	32				
PRETORIA	21	13	62%	11	52%
PRIMROSE	12	6	50%		
RAMAH*	19				
SALISBURY*	10				
SPRINGS	13	12	92%	17	131%
WELKOM*					

* Reported too late.

Congratulations to Pretoria Branch for an increase of 6 magazine subscriptions.

Congratulations to the East Rand Branch who have 12 enrolled, average attendance of 12 magazine subscriptions!

The Book of Generations

"THIS is the book of the generations of Adam, in the day that God created man."

(Genesis 5 : 1)

"And a book of remembrance was kept in which was recorded in the language of Adam . . . And by them their children were taught to read and write, having a language which was pure and undefiled . . . and a genealogy was kept of the children of God. And this was the book of the generations of Adam.

(Moses 6:5-8)

And death hath come upon our fathers; Nevertheless we know them, and cannot deny and even the first of all we know, even Adam. Far a book of remembrance was written among us according to the pattern given by the finger of God; and it is given in our own language.

(Moses 6:45-46)

But the records of the fathers, even the patriarchs, concerning the right of Priesthood, the Lord my God preserved in mine own hands; therefore a knowledge of the beginning of the creation, and also of the planets, and of the stars, as they were made known unto the fathers, have I kept even unto this day and I shall endeavour to write some of these things upon this record, for the benefit of my posterity that shall come after me."

(Abraham 1:31)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was organized on the 6th day of April, 1830 by Joseph Smith a prophet divinely called of

God. This was the restoration of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this dispensation, the fullness of times.

Unto whom I have committed the keys of my kingdom, and a dispensation of the gospel for the 'last times' and for the fulness of times, in the which I will gather together in one all things, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth. ...

(D. & C. 27:13)

The above scriptural quotations confirm the gathering and keeping of genealogy or a book of remembrance as from our first progenitor Father Adam to our day through the Prophet Joseph Smith.

On the 3rd of April 1836 in the Kirtland Temple, a vision received by Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery recorded in the Doctrine and Covenants Section 110 sets forth the direct fulfillment of Malachi's prediction. Thus the gathering of all things commenced as early as 1836.

The Latter-day Saints are the only people who fully understand the doctrine of gathering and searching of genealogies and its importance or reason why, other than pride of race or proof of influence. Yet we know it is their hearts being turned to their fathers.

The spirit of Elijah is over the whole earth in this dispensation as promised, and it is the duty of every member to search out their genealogies that we will not stand condemned at the last day.

Sister Edith Wiid

One ship drives east and another drives west

With the selfsame winds that blow.

'Tis the set of the sails

And not the gales

Which tells the way to go.

Like the winds of the sea are the ways of fate,

As we voyage along through life:

'Tis the set of the soul

That decides its goal,

And not the calm or the strife.

Ella W. Wilcox

THE MIA PAGE

BELOW are some thought provoking statements prepared for the youth of the Church. These are especially applicable to the youth of Mutual age and older for they deal with many of the problems that face this age group.

What a glorious day in which to live! O youth of a noble birthright, the world is at your feet! You were born at this time to have dominion therein. What a priceless heritage! But there are detours, and you could miss the way. You can grovel in the earth or you can climb to the skies. In this life's university you can fail or you can graduate with high honours. All depends upon you and your attitudes and determinations.

— ELDER Spencer W. Kimball

My dear freshmen, I want you to remember that tobacco in any form destroys the brain, and you have none to spare.

— President Charles W. Ellot
Harvard University

How glorious and near to the angels is youth that is clean. This youth has joy unspeakable here, and eternal happiness hereafter.

— First Presidency,
1942

Morals are lost, not by one big 'blowout'; just by slow leaks.

— Unknown

A clean conscience with a chaste body and virtuous mind brings power, happiness, and peace which no unvirtuous person can enjoy.

— ELDER Spencer W. Kimball

**You ought to be true for the sake
of the folks who think you are true.
You never should stoop to a deed
That your folks think you would
not do.
If you are false to yourself,
Be the blemish but small
You have injured your folks;
You have been false to them all.**

— Edgar A. Guest

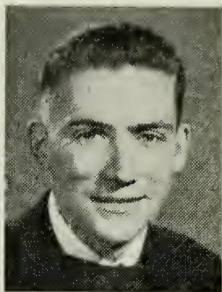
While Dwight D. Eisenhower was attending West Point Military Academy, he occasionally was able to return to his home in Abilene, Kansas, for a vacation. During one of these trips home, some of the "old gang" inveigled Ike into challenging Dirk Tyler, a professional Negro fighter, to a boxing match.

When the young military student saw the gigantic Negro with bulging muscles and an impassive face, he felt literally sick. Nevertheless, he put on a bold front and soon the two were facing each other in a public gym. A large crowd stood by

anxiously waiting to see Ike take a beating.

Before the end of the first round, however, the professional fighter was knocked out by young Dwight. Seeing that their scheme had failed, the "gang" began tormenting Dirk Tyler. In the days that followed, the older boys ganged up on him and the younger ones began to throw stones as he passed.

Observing this sadistic attitude, Eisenhower jumped immediately to Dirk's defense. "Brave guys, hey?" he challenged! "if you are so brave, stop picking on Dirk and start picking on me!"



**ELDER THOMAS
SMITH**

WHEN the "New Era" lessons were introduced to the missionaries towards the end of last year, they were told that each lesson would have to be memorised word for word. This meant there was over 110 pages of text to be learned. The missionaries set to work and began the long, slow task that was to fill almost all of their study time for the next weeks and months. But one of the Elders was able to commit the lessons to memory so fast that we are giving him special mention here on this page.

Elder Smith took the relatively short time of 73 days to completely memorise and give in cottage meetings all the 7 lessons. We congratulate you on your achievement Elder Smith and know that you will use the knowledge you have gained in serving your Father in Heaven with all your might here in this mission.

Elder Smith is to receive a book from President Alldredge in recognition of his achievement.



Hazel and Linda

SISTER HAZEL KOTZE and her small daughter come to services at "Cumorah" in Cape Town regularly. But the remarkable thing about their attendance is the fact that they both come on a small motor scooter.

They have to travel quite a distance by scooter to reach the hall, but willingly do it, rain or shine, in order to attend church. Happy motoring girls!

A Thought For The New Year

*With these two hands what
Wonders I would do,
Were but the power granted me by God.
I'd use them as a wizard does
His rod,
To take the world and fashion
It anew,
This world that is so very
Much askeu!
All that is cruel, mean and
Vile and odd
I'd crush, nor leave unturned
A single sod.
And from their fragments
Something splendid hew.
With these two hands
So willing, but so weak,
That guide the puny pen-
Through which they speak,
I would fashion, if I could-
Some lovely thing.
And plant it in men's hearts,
From which I would fling
All bitterness, injustice
And all wrong thought ;
With these two helpless hands
That without God, can do naught.*

Tex Smith



**ELDER DOUGLAS BOWEN
LUKE . . . Salt Lake City, Utah.**

Assigned: to Capetown, 13th December, 1958.

Transferred: Johannesburg, . . . 2nd January, 1959. N'dola, 9th November, 1959. Kitwe, 19th February, 1960. Pretoria, 8th June, 1960. Germiston, 1st October, 1960. Johannesburg, 25th November, 1960.

Released: December, 26th, 1960.

**ELDER RONALD GORDON
RICE . . . Claresholm, Alberta,
Canada.**

Assigned: to Cape Town 13th December, 1959.

Transferred: to Kimberley 2nd January, 1959. N'dola 16th February, 1959. Johannesburg, August, 1959. Springs, 13th May, 1960.

Released: November, 23rd, 1960.

**ELDER GARY KAY HADDOCK
. . . Idaho Falls, Idaho, U.S.A.**

Assigned: to Johannesburg, 30th November, 1958.

Transferred: to N'dola, November, 1959. Durban, February, 17th 1960. Virginia, 29th June, 1960. Welkom, 14th September, 1960.

Released: November 23rd, 1960.

**ELDER MICHAEL BENNETT
HOWARD. . . Seattle Washington,
U.S.A.**

Assigned: to Welkom, 30th November, 1958.

Transferred: Virginia, June, 1959. Johannesburg, August, 1959. Boksburg, 8th June, 1960. Johannesburg, 29th June, 1960. Krugersdorp, 28th July, 1960. Randfontein, 30th July, 1960. Discovery, 25th August, 1960.

Released: November 25th, 1960

**ELDER LOWELL DOUGLAS
OLSEN . . . Ogdon. Utah.**

Assigned: Cape Town, 30th November 1958.

Transferred: Kitwe, 5th June, 1959. Welkom, 20th October, 1959. Brakpan, 13th May, 1960.

Released: November 23rd, 1960.

**ELDER GARY LEE HOWLETT
. . . Draper, Utah.**

Assigned: to Bellville Cape, 13th December, 1958.

Transferred: Krugersdorp, June, 1959. Pretoria, January, 14th, 1960. Kitwe, 8th June, 1960. Lusaka, 8th July, 1960. Johannesburg, 9th December, 1960.

Released: December 26th, 1960.

**ELDER JOSEPH JAMES WILSON
. . . Salt Lake City.**

Assigned: to Cape Town, 16th January, 1959.

Transferred: Kimberley, 16th February, 1959. Pretoria, August, 1959. Pietermaritzburg, January, 27th, 1960. Kitwe, 28th July, 1960. Johannesburg, 9th December, 1960.

Released: December 26th, 1960.

**SISTER GWEN LENORE MEE-
CHAM . . . Provo, Utah.**

Assigned: to Durban, July 4th, 1959.

Transferred: to Mission office, 5th January, 1960.

Released: January 4th, 1961.

**SISTER DETTA FERN COOPER
. . . Burbank, California.**

Assigned: to Cape Town, 3rd July, 1959.

Transferred: Durban, 5th January, 1960.

Released: January, 4th, 1961.

**SISTER SHARON ABBOTT . . .
Salt Lake City, Utah.**

Assigned: to Cape Town, June, 1959.

Transferred: Durban, July 3rd, 1959. Cape Town, April 20th, 1960.

Released January 4th, 1961.



DETTA COOPER
Burbank, California



DOUGLAS LUKE
Salt Lake City, Utah



JOSEPH J. WILSON
Salt Lake City, Utah



GARY L. HOWLETT
Draper, Utah



GWEN L. MEECHAM
Provo, Utah

LEFT FOR HOME



SHARON ABBOTT
Salt Lake City, Utah



GARY K. HADDOCK
Idaho Falls, Idaho



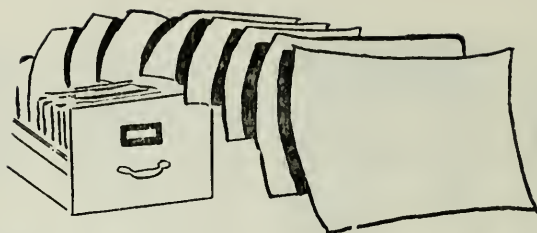
MICHAEL B. HOWARD
Seattle, Washington



RONALD G. RICE
Claresholm, Alberta,
Canada



LOWELL D. OLSEN
Ogden, Utah



FROM OUR FILES

BAPTISMS

Durban Branch

RUTLEDGE, Debora Evelyn
ROBERTSON, John Edward
ROBERTSON, Patricia E. Anne
ROBERTSON, Andrew James
CAMPBELL, Anne Margaret
ROBERTSON, Phyllis Thelma
WILLCOCKS, Harold John
WILLCOCKS, Annette
LLOYD, Anna Marie M.
LLOYD, Kathleen Jean
WILLCOCKS, Vaughn John
East Rand Branch
LEDWARD, Ethel Vivian
STRYDOM, Dorothy
STRYDOM, Adrian Marthinus
JACOBS, Hendrik
JACOBS, Martha Caterina
JACOBS, Veronica
JACOBS, Luna
JACOBS, Pieter R.

Bulawayo Branch

HERBERT, Andrew Joseph
FOUCHE, Anna Susanna

Primrose Branch

SANDOW, Ernest Oswald
SANDOW, David Gordon

Pretoria Branch

MARITZ, Yvonne
MARITZ, Nicolas J.
PRETORIUS, Johannes L.
PRETORIUS, Willem J.
PRETORIUS, Phillipus
PRETORIUS, Susanna
FABER, Nola Johanna
WILBLIN, William Hilton
CRUICKSHANK, Jesse B.
Pietermaritzburg Branch
CAINE, Barbara Joy
ORTH, Eric Bernhardt
ORTH, Selma Susanna
Ramah Branch
HUGO, Barbara Maria
BRISTOW, Hester Gertrude
Salisbury Branch
POTGIETER, Elizabeth M.
Springs Branch
BLAMEY, Graham J.
BLAMEY, Valerie Wendy
JUBBER, Kenneth Claude
CADMAN, Michael
Welkom Branch
FARQUHARSON, George D.
FARQUHARSON, Ethel D.

Out of Branch Baptisms

NEL, Gert Johannes
STEMMET, Lorna

BLESSINGS

Bulawayo Branch

HERBERT, Gary Alexander

Durban Branch

WILLCOCKS, Vaughan John

Bloemfontein Branch

DE WET, Andre Hugo

DE WET, Teresa

East London Branch

WALDEK, Sally

Pretoria Branch

DU PREEZ, Francois Frederick

WIBLIN, Cheryl Anne

DU PREEZ, Pictronella

Francina

JANSEN van VUUREN,

Louis H.

DU PREEZ, Matthys Herculaas

DU PREEZ, Herculaas Collin

TALJAARD, Hendrina

Whilmina

WIBLIN, Sylvia Carol

Port Elizabeth Branch

VOGEL, Eleanor Pauline

VAN DER MERWE

Sheldon S.

Springs Branch

BALMEY, Craig Graham

Ramah Branch

STEWIEN, Shirley

JUNG, Karen Elizabeth

BRISTOW, Michael David H.

COHEN, Gavin Rory

COHEN, Sharon

Out of Branch

NEL, Hendrik Cornelius

ORDINATIONS

Bulawayo Branch

BUCKLE, Walter—Deacon

AUSTIN, Robin Hugh—

Deacon

Durban Branch

BARROWMAN, Donald—

Deacon

JONES, Hugh H.—Deacon

SOUTHY, Trevor—Deacon

BOETTGER, Noland—Deacon

MEIRING, Johannes—Deacon

WINSTANLEY, Percy—

Deacon

BARROWMAN, Andrew—

Deacon

CAMERON, Robert—Priest

BRAITHWAITE, John—

Deacon

DOLLER, LeLand G.—Priest

VAN COLLER, Ivor—Deacon

WIBLIN, Alvin—Teacher

WILLSON, Graham—Teacher

MILLER, Nigel—Priest

MILLER, Malcolm—Priest

Pretoria Branch

SANDERS, Frank Octavius—

Elder

SMIT, Johannes D. F.—Deacon

East London Branch

DEWING, Maurice M.—Deacon

CORRIGAN, Ralph—Deacon

Primrose Branch

DE WET, Johannes F.—

Teacher

DE WET, Walter A—Teacher

HEFER, Louis—Elder

Ramah Branch

WAGSTAFF, Edwin Neil—

Elder

SCHAFER, William Victor—

Elder

FRANKLAND, Stephen

Andrew—Deacon

DELATE, Ceecil George—

Deacon

DELL, Anthony Graham—

Deacon

LARSSON, Anthony M.—

Teacher

LEEUEW, Russell H.—Deacon

SHARPE, Harry Edward—

Teacher

MARRIAGES

Ramah Branch

CHATER, Kenneth Brian—

Married to Barbara Jacomina

Brown. 4 November, 1960.

Johannesburg, Tvl.

WAGSTAFF, Edwin—Married

to Margaret Heywood Du-

snup 27 August, 1960.

Johannesburg, Tvl.

SCHAFER, Virginia Ann—

Married to Brian Judson

Stewien, (a non-member.) 13

June, 1960 in Johannesburg,

Tvl.

Transfers

- ELDER V. MCCULLOUGH** from Kimberley to Johannesburg.
ELDER SHERID PETERSON from Johannesburg to Vereeniging.
ELDER DAVID SIMPSON from Vereeniging, Tvl. to Discovery, Tvl.
ELDER ARLEN SMITH from Boksburg, Tvl. to Glen Harmony, O.F.S.
ELDER MARVIN DAHL from Pretoria, Tvl. to Kitwe, N.R.
RUDOLPH VARGA from Salisbury, S.R. to Pretoria, Tvl.
DAVID ALLEN from Johannesburg to Boksburg, Tvl.
ELDER BRUCE PAYNE from Kitwe, N. Rhodesia to Johannesburg, Tvl.
ELDER W. WALLIN from Lusaka, N. Rhodesia to Bloemfontein, O.F.S.
ELDER BENARD PACKARD from Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia to East London, C.P.
ELDER GARY TATE from Salisbury, S. Rhodesia to Johannesburg, Tvl.
ELDER RUSSEL WARREN from Johannesburg, Tvl. to Salisbury, S. Rhodesia.
ELDER RONALD LOUW from Bloemfontein, O.F.S. to Durban, Natal.
ELDER BARRY PARKINSON from East London to Lusaka N. Rhodesia.
ELDER JAMES CLARK from Johannesburg, Tvl. to Bulawayo, S. Rhodesia.
ELDER JEFFERY PICKLES from Durban, Natal to Kitwe N. Rhodesia.
SISTER STEPHANIE NINOW from Durban, Natal to Mission office, Johannesburg.

New Arrivals

- NESTOR LEROY STANKO** from Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, Arrived 24th November, 1960. Assigned to labour in Germiston, Tvl.
RULON COOK DUNCAN from Centerville, Utah. Arrived 24th November, 1960. Assigned to labour in Springs, Tvl.
RICHARD BRYCE LOWRY from Cardston, Alberta, Canada. Arrived 24th November, 1960. Assigned to labour in Brakpan, Tvl.
ELDER KENT FRANK OLSON from Diamond City, Alberta, Canada. Arrived 24th November, 1960. Assigned to labour in Durban, Natal.
ELDER RAY S. THOMPSON from Salt Lake City, Utah, arrived 8th December, 1960. Assigned to labour in Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia.
ELDER CALVIN MORRIS WILSON, Spanish Fork, Utah, arrived 8th December, 1960. Assigned to labour in Salisbury, S. Rhodesia.

APPOINTMENTS

- DAVID ALLEN** Supervising Elder of East Rand District.
ARLEN SMITH Supervising Elder of Welkom District.

Horatio Nelson was rear admiral in command of the British fleet during the famous Battle of the Nile which took place in 1798. During this fierce naval engagement, Nelson received a severe wound in the head, which he thought to be fatal. Nevertheless, he refused to allow the

injury to be treated until the others had been cared for. "I'll take my turn with my brave fellows," he said. Because of his skillful planning and courageous fighting in the Battle of the Nile, Horatio Nelson was hailed as "the greatest admiral in history."

BRANCH REPORTS



BULAWAYO BRANCH

Margaret Issac

THE Gwelo members gave us a wonderful surprise by donating the sum of £20 towards the Branch Building Fund, this amount being the proceeds of a cake sale organized by the Sisters. Considering how few in numbers is the membership in Gwelo (less than 10) it is a wonderful effort. Here in Bulawayo we held a cake sale and raised the sum of £33 and our fund continues to grow from individual contributions. The Sisters

are certainly working hard for our chapel and our thanks go out to them. Branch conference was held and we were delighted to have President Alldredge and his good wife along with President Cox. It is always inspiring to hear the words of wisdom from our leaders. **Congratulations to Sister Fouche and Brother Herbert on their recent baptism. We welcome these good people into the Branch and trust they will find joy and happiness in the Gospel.** Brother Herbert's infant son received a wonderful blessing from President Alldredge. We have some of our members on leave this month and we wish them a happy holiday. May we take this opportunity to wish all members everywhere a Happy and Joyous New Year!



DURBAN BRANCH

Joyce Wahlburn

THE Relief Society have had a busy time this past few weeks! A Beetle Drive was held at the Chapel to help swell the Relief Society funds. The closing social was held as well, and the articles that were for sale in the Fête were marked. Sister Henning is to be congratulated on the effort she put forth to help organise the Fête.

President Alldredge paid a flying trip to Durban to officiate at the wedding ceremony of Brother Duwane Jakins, and Miss Merrill Thompson. We wish them every happiness in their future life together. Father Christmas had his biggest and warmest welcome of the season at our Sunday School Party. The kiddies had a

wonderful time, and to watch the little ones with their varying expressions of delight, was entertainment for the adults too! Two of our Sisters have



been sick this month and our prayers have been with them. We hope the New Year will bring them both good health, as they are very sweet people and are very dear to us. We extend to all the members and missionaries throughout the mission, a very happy and prosperous New Year!

EAST LONDON BRANCH

Rita Corrigan

WE had a successful dance at the Kidd's Beach Hall, 20 miles from East London and although it was excessively hot everyone enjoyed themselves. The event was in aid of our chapel building fund and we did very well for that cause. Sister Jean Olsen held a "braai vleis" at her home, the first of December and it netted £5 for our building fund. We held our Branch Christmas party early this year and Brother and Sister Corrigan gave the freedom of their home for the occasion and we had a goodly number in attendance. Games were played, Father Christmas distributed gifts, and carols were sung. Delightful "eats" were provided by the Sisters and since it was such a warm evening the ice-cream tasted very good. The happy visitors bid farewell to everyone and small groups left as the sleepy children had to be taken off to bed. We were happy to have two visitors from Chingola, Northern Rhodesia with us for a short holiday. The Futter family stopped in to see us from the Transvaal, and we were pleased to see them as well. Brother Strydom from Krugersdorp, was present at our evening service and we hope that we will be able to meet the whole family next time.

EAST RAND BRANCH

Jean McGill



THE Sunday School began activities for the month with a picnic held at Heidelberg Kloof. Judging by the heavy sunburn, this was a great success. Relief Society held a very enjoyable closing social the first Wednesday of the month. We were happy to have so many members attend. At this time we would like to express our gratitude to Sister Balmer for all her efforts on our behalf while she was our President. The MIA started December activities with a Progressive Dinner which began at the home of Brother and Sister Alexander in Brakpan and progressed through Boksburg, ending up in Benoni. Parents and

children turned out in full force on the 17th of December for our Christmas Party. Everybody enjoyed themselves and the children were delighted with their gifts and consequently hardly missed Santa Claus at all! A delightful Christmas Fireside was held after Sacrament Service this month and we all came home with a greater understanding of the true meaning of Christmas, as a result of our fireside. **We are indeed happy to welcome into the branch, Brother Volley and Sister M. Jacobs who were baptised into the Church.** Our guest speaker this month was Brother Tex Smith who as usual left us with an inspiring and uplifting message. The members of the East Rand Branch wish all the Saints a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

KRUGERSDORP BRANCH

Phyllippa Powrie

HELLO everybody! Our programme has been full of late, but we had only one baptism this month. The poor branch has had more trouble too! Sister Fouche's eldest daughter's husband was killed on the Stilfontein Mine. The Branch held a cake sale and jumble sale and a Cinema Show

at the Witpoortjie School in aid of our Building Fund. All these activities were moderately successful and we look for better ones in the future. We had a very nice Sunday School Programme (your reporter knows they had a nice one in Cape Town too!) and a picnic at Saronde, near Krugersdorp. This was very well attended and everyone had a good time in spite of a few drops of rain. We are looking forward to the Christmas Party this month. The children under 12 will receive rather nice presents while the rest of us will bring 2/6 to put in the Brother and Sister gift box. We have the very best wishes for all in the coming New Year, and may our South African Mission grow in strength as well as in members.

MOWBRAY BRANCH

Beatrice E. Smith



THE Priesthood Brethren held a party during the month of November and it was the gayest one ever held at old "Cumorah". There were items gay and serious with the evenings' highlight of a serio-comic presentation of the deepest, darkest deeds of "Hamlet". The Primary Children gave us one of the loveliest programmes we have ever had and we want to thank the parents and teachers who helped the little playlets. We were delighted to have Sister Fourie with us at this time; it was so good to see her again. The Relief Society

decided to hold a meeting in the home of someone who was unable to come to meetings. The Sisters all went out to Sister Vigus where we were able to talk over old times with this faithful Sister who joined the Church so many years ago. For those of us who have entered the evening of life an Old Folks Party was held. The hall was decorated with shimmering moons and beautiful floral decorations. There was a programme of light songs and a wonderful spirit at the getogether. District Conference commenced with a Banquet for the District Officers and Presidencies at which President Alldredge addressed the Officers and told the many things we will be expected to do now that the New Era is upon us. We sympathise with Mr. C. and Sister Lawrie on the sudden death of their eldest son, Mr. Stewart Lawrie. May these dear old people be comforted in their grief.

PORT ELIZABETH BRANCH

Mage McHugh

RELIEF SOCIETY held their annual bazaar and it turned out quite a success. The sum of £50 roughly was made. The total money went into our building Fund. Brother Victor Corney has left for Rhodesia, and we wish him every success in his new adventure. The annual Christmas Party was held and everyone turned up. Father Christmas handed out gifts to the younger members, but some of them were frightened by him and wouldn't go and get their presents. The Branch held an outing on the beach during the holiday this month and everyone enjoyed themselves, what with burnt backs and blisters.

Another Baptismal service was held at the Spa Mineral baths, where Brother and Sister Marks were baptised. We welcome them and their family into the Church.

PRETORIA BRANCH

Martha Lion-Cachet

THE Relief Society held its last social of the year, and the demonstration this month was given by Sisters Faber and Van Zyl. They showed us how to make artificial flowers from foam rubber. The Sisters all enjoyed the demonstration and it gave them all a chance to make flowers for the old year dance which will be held on the 30th of December at Ramah. Many

of our members have left us for the Christmas holidays and we wish them a safe return. We hope they will all be rested and filled with zest so that we can start the New Year with a bang. The Sunday School held a most enjoyable picnic at Fountains. Games were played, ice-cream was served and sweets, oranges and biscuits were dished out to everyone! The MIA had an end-of-year party and the Saints sang until they were hoarse and had to be brought around again with eats and cool drinks. **We want to welcome all our new members who were baptised and know that they will grow to love the Church as we do!** We wish to congratulate Brother and Sister John Taljaard on the birth of a fine son. His name is Quentin. A cakesale was held in aid of the MIA and it proved to be a great success. The sisters who gave so freely of their time and talents are to be commended for the lovely job they did. The programme: "Miracle of Zarahemla" was performed by the MIA in the home of Brother and Sister Faber, and everyone who saw it felt inspired and uplifted in the Christmas Spirit.

PRIMROSE BRANCH

Wendy Norbury

WE'RE pleased to be in the news once more. We at this time would like to extend a hearty welcome to Sister Otto from Knysna who will be with us for the Christmas holidays.. We are especially happy to see her young son baptised into the Church. We have with us as well Brother Newby from Salisbury who is joining us in our services and M.I.A. The Primary held their evening service which was a splendid effort, and **we had 40 Primary children in attendance.** The parents and children thoroughly enjoyed the evening. A tribute must be paid to those who helped to make the evening so inspiring. **We have the privilege of welcoming into the branch Brother Sandow who was baptised last month.** The Primary and the Sunday School joined forces this month and held a combined Christmas Tree Party. It was a huge success and the children were thrilled. Welcome Elder Stanko and hope that he and Elder Park enjoy their labours here.

RAMAH BRANCH

Miriam Nicholls



IT is with pleasure that we report the birth of Brother and Sister Clark's new son and the lovely son born to Brother and Sister Meyer. We send our blessing to these wonderful members and wish them joy with their new babies. We held a Christmas Tree for the Junior Sunday School this month and it was a success.

Sister Fountain's husband made a wonderful Father Christmas and the children loved their party. The toys this year seemed extra nice and everyone who attended had lots of the delightful food that was served. We held another film show to help support a missionary in the field, and to increase our funds for this project. But I am sorry to report that this was very poorly attended. The Branch went to "Little Falls" for a picnic; it was a lovely day and the folks enjoyed swimming and lazing around in the sun. We are pleased to welcome our Mission President and his family to the Transvaal. We trust they will be very happy in their new home. We are looking forward to a wonderful Sabbath this next week as it is Christmas Day. We have had a wonderful year and we trust we shall have an even happier one in 1961. We send our love and greetings to all Saints everywhere.

SALISBURY BRANCH

Jean Schonberg

WE regret that owing to his indisposition President Alldredge was unable to join with us in our conference during November. We pray that he feels fully restored to health by now, and that he can visit us again very soon. Our film show for the betterment of teaching in the Church was shown. It was called: "Feed My Sheep." A cake sale was held by the Relief Society and some of our handwork was put on sale as well. The splendid sum of £41. 13. 4. was raised for the building fund and we are very happy about it. December 3 was childrens day and what a happy occasion it was. Santa arrived to distribute toys to all the children after a film show. Then a bountiful tea was enjoyed by the youngsters. The MIA held a progressive dinner and the sum of £11. 17. 6. swelled the building fund. All together 56 people joined in the fun. **Sister Nesbitt went through the waters of baptism on the 4th of December and we give this dear sister a most hearty welcome into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. We pray that she may ever find joy in the Gospel and companionship among the Saints.** The Saints in Salisbury send greetings to all branches of the South African Mission and God's richest blessings to you all in 1961.

SPRINGS BRANCH

N. C. van Niekerk

ELDER RICE gave his farewell talk at Sacrament service, and Brother John Juber thanked him for his fine work in Springs. It is with many good wishes that we bid Elder Rice Godspeed on the way home. We welcomed into our midst Brother and Sister M. W. Brummer of Nigel into the Branch. We had a MIA "Moonlight Picnic" in Murray Park and later held an ice cream debate in the recreation hall. The winners and losers alike were treated to an ice-cream feast. Class Group, Course 19, annual Christmas party was held in the home of the Jubbers, and it was held under the direction of Brother Armstrong. Sister van Niekerk the teacher just stood by. These individual class group functions are held to help develop a greater spirit of belonging and to help maintain the spirit of good fellowship; We are happy to report our system works very well! The Sunday Schools annual Christmas Party was held in the recreation hall. The tableau staged under the direction of Sister Hulbert was a great portrayal of the Nativity by the very young. The narrator was Sister Armstrong. The carols rendered by the children were sung with a fine feeling of the true Christmas spirit. A duet was rendered by the Armstrongs which began the gentle chimes of dozens of tiny bells as the children came down to the floor at the same time bursting into song ushering in Santa Claus. The Sunday School Superintendency are agreed that the three months' advance preparation had paid great dividends. Sister Hutton of our branch was awarded a Certificate of Merit for perfect attendance, third prize for a relay race at the annual District Schools Sports Meet, and Second prize for her Christmas Carol Book. **Mooi so ou sussie!** President and Sister Alldredge casually dropped in on us for a Sunday night service and we were al inspired by the Christmas message President Alldredge left us. We extend to all in the mission the blessings of the Lord for a prosperous New Year.

A gangsters son spent four years learning how to be a safe-cracker. He was determined to follow in his fathers fingerprints.

*Therefore let your hearts
be comforted;*

*For all things shall work
together for good to them
that walk uprightly*

*And to the sanctification
of the Church.*

Doctrine and Covenants
100:15

The New Year

AT this time of the year most businesses are taking inventory, so they can properly assess their progress for the past year and plan their affairs for the future. An increasing number of people are taking the opportunity at the beginning of each year to review the past and "take stock" of their personal lives and to make resolutions to better in the New Year.

Making "New Year Resolutions" has value even if promptly forgotten, but if one takes the trouble to write them down, they can serve as a reminder, if even for a short time, of the many things we can do to improve our lives. There is no end to the value we can receive if we write down our good resolutions and seriously try to achieve them during the year. The value is increased a hundred fold if we will keep the list where we can read it every few days.

Though you will have many personal things to put on your list may I take the liberty to suggest a few for members of the Church:

I will deal more kindly with all I meet.

I will live so all men may be led to investigate the Church, through my good works.

I will help to build God's Kingdom by more fully living the law of the tithe.

I will seek better health through a better understanding of the "Word of Wisdom."

I will help build my Branch by honouring, sustaining, and following the counsel of the Branch Presidency.

I will welcome each opportunity to serve and give my best in whatever position I am called to serve.

I will try and glimpse the treasures that lie in the "Second Mile."

To these add every uplifting wish of your heart, and then with faith, work and prayer set about to achieve them.



President O. L. Alldredge